The Taming of Lola: A Shrew Story

Laurien Clay

Reviewer: Laurien Clay  
Reading Level: Preschool, Primary  
Rating: Excellent  
Genre: Fiction; Humorous stories; Picture books;  
Subject: Temper tantrums--Juvenile fiction; Behavior--Juvenile fiction; Cousins--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Lola the Shrew is known throughout the meadow for her temper tantrums. Thus, when she does not want to eat mosquitoes or wear her red socks, she gets her way. However, once her cousin Lester arrives on the scene with a temper as big as hers, they end up fighting over everything from beds to digging tunnels. After they realize that their fighting makes them miss out on the family picnic, they agree to compromise. By the time Lester leaves, they are friends, and Lola is forever cured of her temper tantrums.

Ellen Weiss and Jerry Smith, both recipients of many awards, have teamed up to create a wonderfully witty story about friendship and learning how to behave. Weiss' fresh humor and Smith's whimsically intelligent illustrations make for a clever combination when it comes to the blending of prose and art. This book would be ideal for both the home and the classroom when teaching children about the downfalls of a bad temper.

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